

## Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 COME-00 /020 W

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P 291358Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3979

UNCLAS ATHENS 4118

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BGEN, GR

SUBJECT: POST RELATIONSHIP WITH AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

REF: STATE 94266

1. EMBASSY ENJOYS PARTICULARLY CLOSE AND FRUITFUL RELATIONS WITH AMERICAN-HELLENIC CHAMBER OF COMMERCE WHICH IS NOT, HOWEVER, AFFILIATED WITH THE U.S. CHAMBER OF COMMERCE. AMONG OTHER AREAS OF MUTUAL COOPERATION THE EMBASSY AND CHAMBER COSPONSOR: (A) A MONTHLY COMMERCIAL NEWSLETTER IN ENGLISH (WITH A BIMONTHLY SUPPLEMENT IN GREEK), (B) THE U.S. EXHIBITION AT THE ANNUAL THESSALONIKI FAIR, AND (C) REGULAR MEETINGS OF THE BUSINESS COMMUNITY AT THE AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE

2. ALTHOUGH THE CHAMBER DOES NOT DEVELOP WTDR OR CREDIT INFORMATION ON GREEK COMPANIES, IT DOES PUBLISH A BIENNIAL LISTING OF ALL U.S. FIRMS REPRESENTED OR DOING BUSINESS IN GREECE. THIS HAS PROVEN TO BE A MOST VALUABLE REFERENCE, AND THE EMBASSY KEEPS A SUPPLY ON HAND FOR SALE TO BUSINESS VISITORS ON BEHALF OF THE CHAMBER. SIMILARLY, THE CHAMBER HAS ALSO TRANSLATED LANDMARK GREEK LEGISLATION ON TAXATION AND INVESTMENT WHICH IS AVAILABLE AT A SMALL FEE (REMITTED TO THE CHAMBER) TO BUSINESS VISITORS

3. THE ONLY AREA IN WHICH THERE MIGHT APPEAR TO BE DUPLICATION IS LIBRARY SERVICE. BOTH THE EMBASSY AND THE CHAMBER MAINTAIN A COMMERCIAL LIBRARY. GIVEN THE CHAMBER'S CONVENIENT DOWNTOWN LOCATION, WE BELIEVE THAT CIRCUMSTANCES JUSTIFY TWO SUCH LIBRARIES. THE EMBASSY AND THE CHAMBER ARE, HOWEVER, INVESTIGATING POSSIBILITIES FOR GREATER EXPLOITATION OF THIS RESOURCE.

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STEARNS

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